Hearing Conservation

Quick Brief

Hearing Conservation Section
Department of Preventive Medicine
Ft. Stewart, GA

Figure 2. Prevalence of H-3 or Greater Hearing Profiles in Enlisted Combat Arms

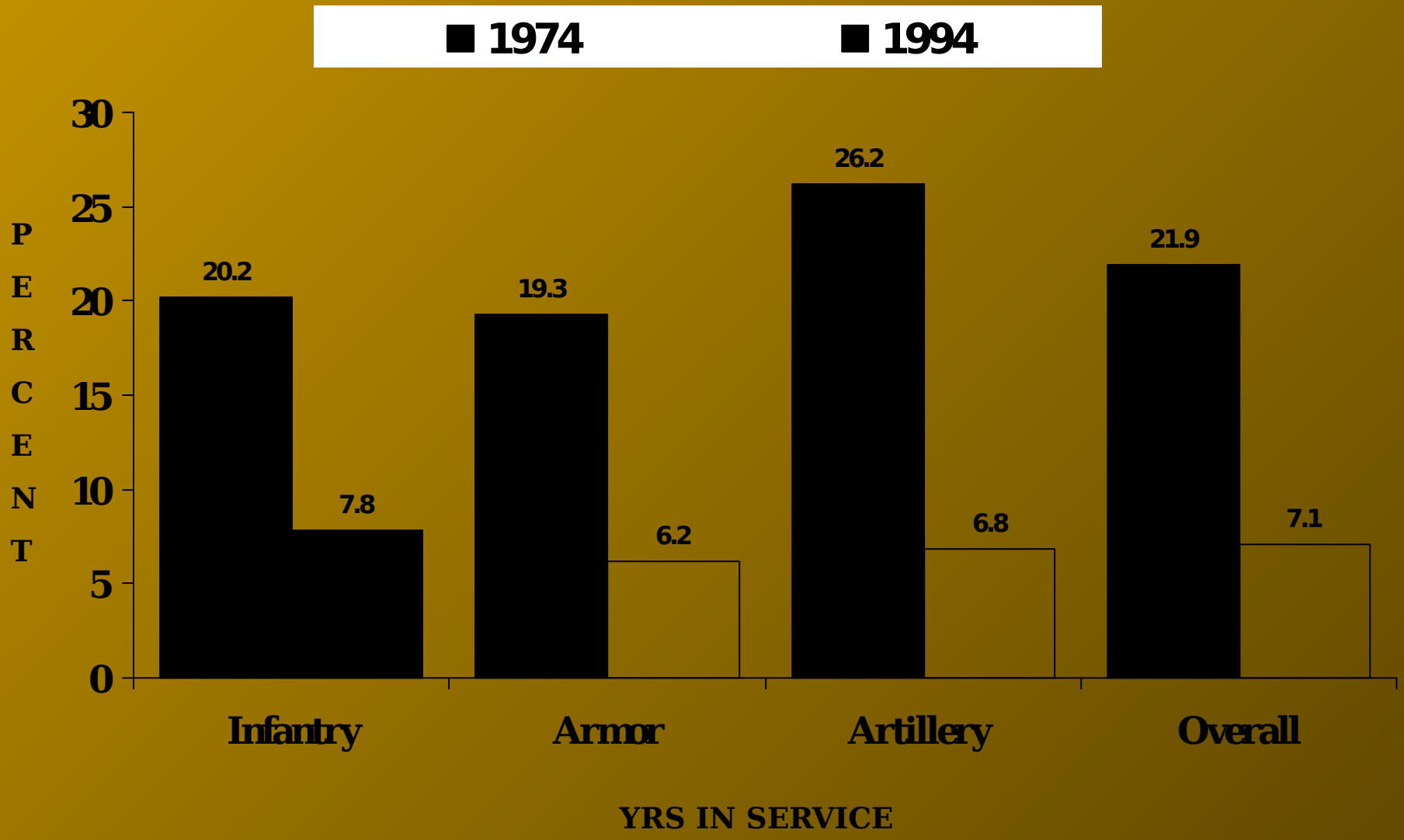


Figure 3. Cost of Hearing Loss for All Veterans (Primary Disability Only)
1977-1997 Total = $4,095,324,768

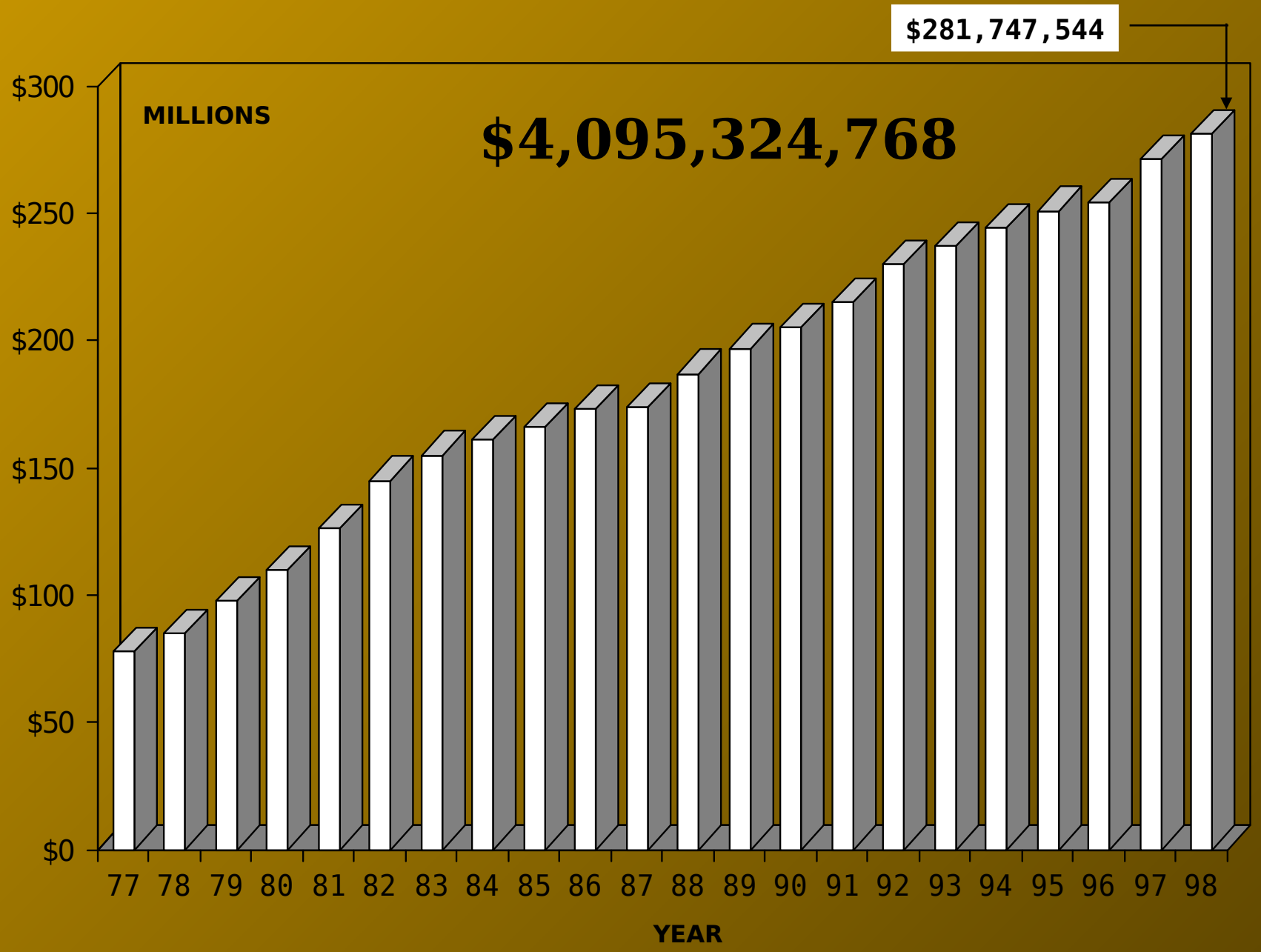
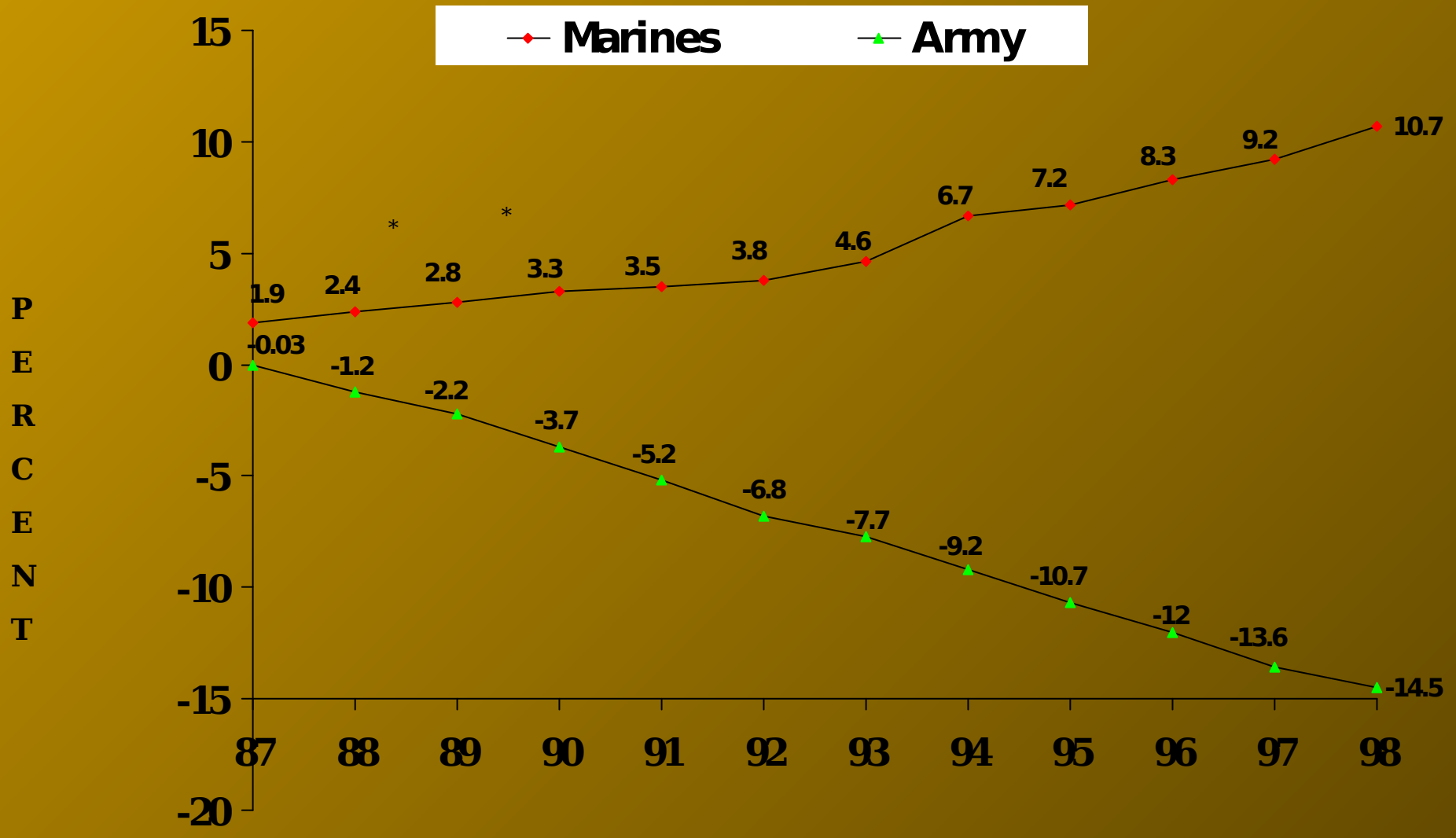


Figure 4. Army/Marine VA Primary Hearing Loss Disability Cases (Percent of Change Since 1986)



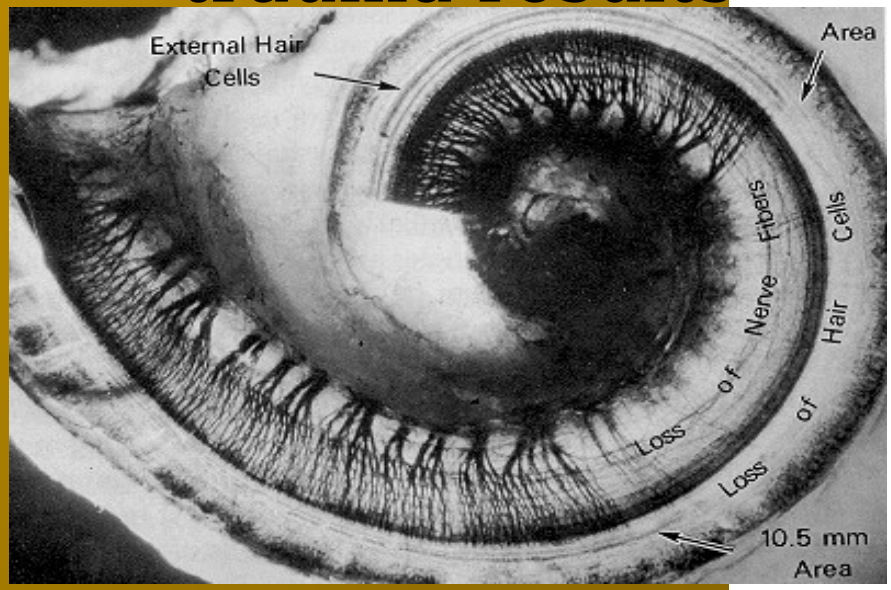
*Extrapolated

AR 690-700 Part B.

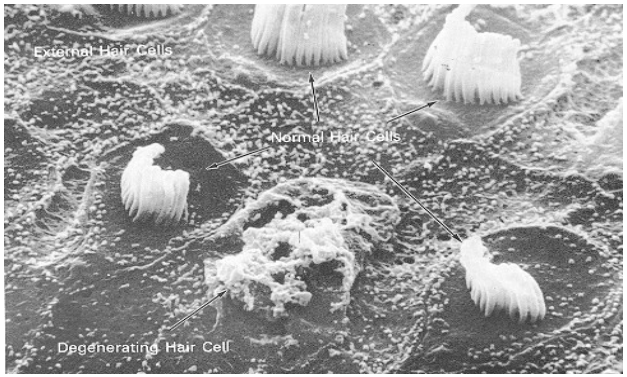
- Offenses Warranting Punitive Discipline
  - **When there is an observation of a <u>failure to observe written regulations, orders, rules or procedures</u>**
    - b. **Violation of administrative rules or regulations <u>where safety to persons or property is endangered</u>**

Safety of Persons, ie., the prevention of injury

- Hearing loss caused by noise-exposure / trauma results in injury!

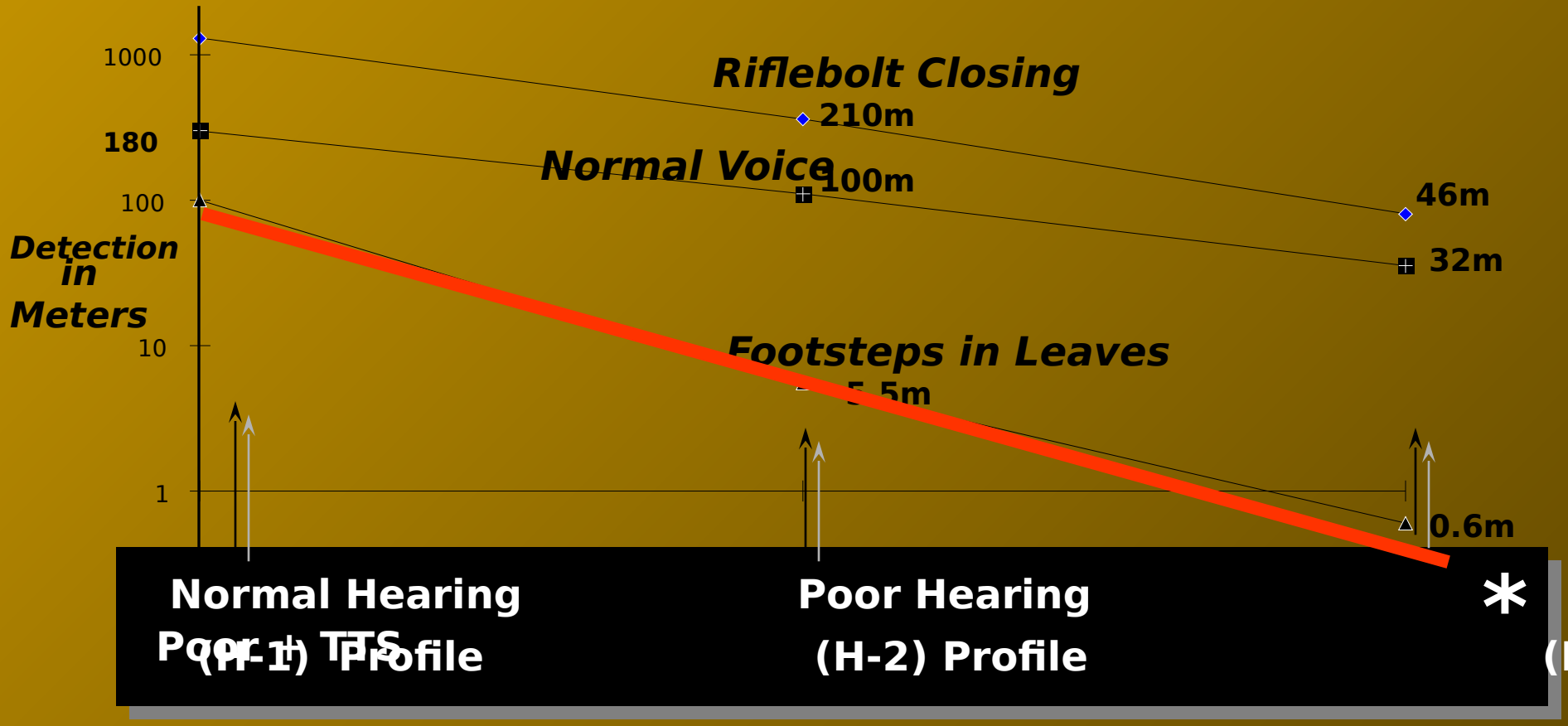


Damaged Hair Cells



Damaged hair cells in the various bundles means loss of sound perception

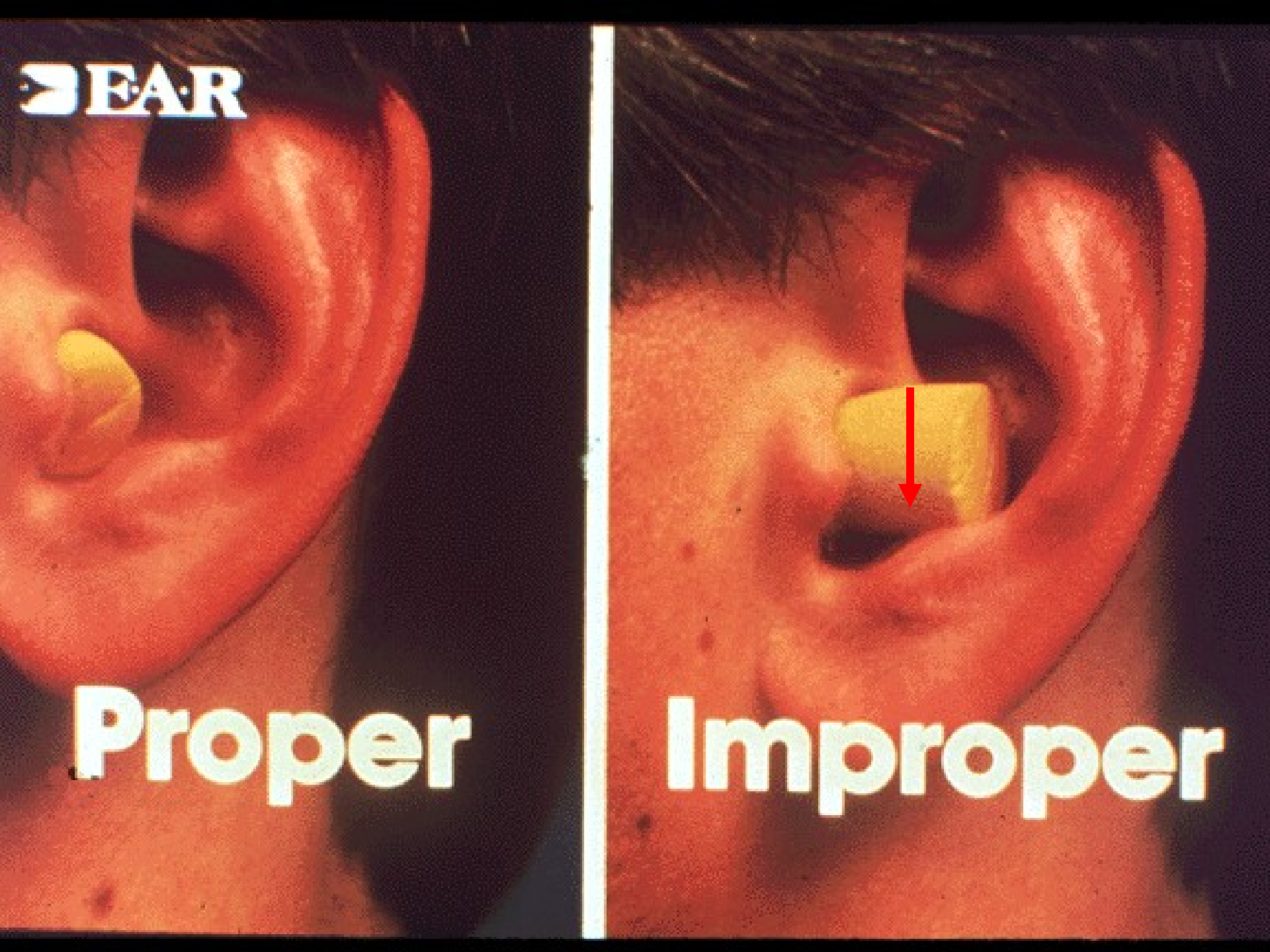
Detection of Sound
by
Hearing Ability



Detection distance decreases rapidly as hearing loss increa

Price et al. '89

* *TTS - Temporary Threshold Sh*

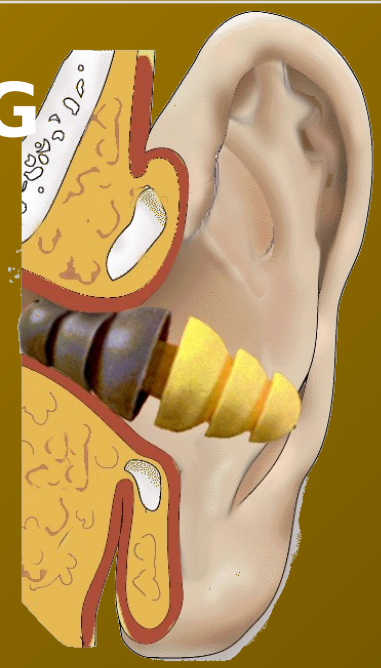

E·A·R
Proper
Improper

DANGER

HEARING PROTECTION
REQUIRED
WHEN OPERATING
THIS EQUIPMENT.

DA Label 172. JUL 83

COMBAT ARMS EARPLUG

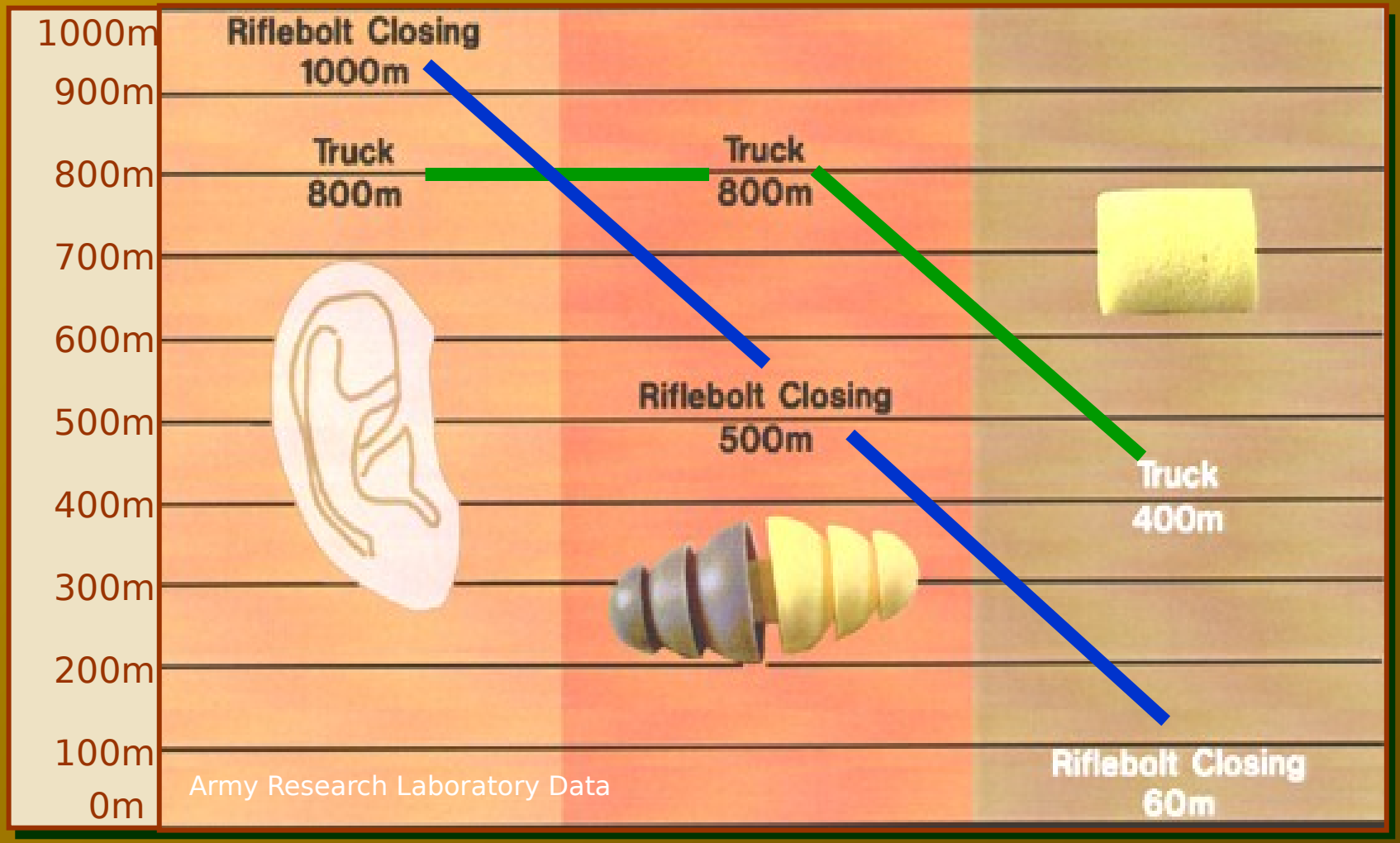


- Insert **YELLOW** plugs for
  weapons fire in dismounted mode.
- Insert **OLIVE DRAB** plugs for
  steady state noise in and
  around aircraft, noisy vehicles and watercraft, etc.
- Keep filter holes free of earwax and other debris.
- Check proper insertion for slight tension by gently tugging
  on plugs.
- Ensure that plugs are cleaned with soap and water and dry
  when returned to case. NSN 6515-01-466-2710

USACHPPM
Readiness thru Health

DETECTION OF SOUND BY

Open Normal Ear Combat Arms Earplug Foam Earplug



Low Suburban Environmental Noise with Acceptable (H+1 Profile) Hearing